

SECRET

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SUBJECT : Revival of Opposition

The following report is quoted from the Jewish Agency's Internal Report on Arab Affairs No. 5/48, dated 1 February 1948:

1. "Ami Day Abd-al-HAKI has begun to re-emerge upon the political scene. He has paid a visit to Amman and is now in Haifa. It looks as if he is trying to renew his contacts with 'ABDALLAH and with the group of veteran Isthmians in Syria (who are violently opposed to one another). He may also be thinking of reviving his own Isthmian group in Palestine. These attempts are obviously directed against the Mufti, and in particular against his plan for an 'Administration'. It is possible that, under the activity that is going on in connection with SHAYKH, 'ALANI, 'ABDALLAH and Syria, Ami would like to get a look in so as to retrieve the summit of his prestige and political future.

2. "The report of Mu'in al-HAKI's resignation from the A.H.E. can perhaps be regarded as having some connection with Ami's efforts. Mu'in, it will be recalled, was originally one of the founders and leaders of the Isthmian Party, and was never a hundred per cent adherent of the Mufti. In view of this activity, the Mufti and his henchmen have also begun to suspect Sahal al-HAKI, representative of the Palestinian Arabs on the League's Military Committee. Their suspicion seems to be due to two causes. In the first place they suspect that in the controversy between the JAFFA Military Committee and the Mufti he is liable to side with the former. Secondly, he is suspect as a former Isthmian and therefore as being liable to join forces with Ami and Mu'in al-HAKI. Mr. SHALAH, who left for Syria about a week ago and stopped in Amman on his way, is also not free from similar suspicion.

"In this connection it is interesting to note the composition of the delegation on behalf of the Jaffa Municipality which is due to go to Syria to ask for help. It is to consist of Hisham al-HAKI, Ibrahim HAKI and Hisham HAKI, all three of whom belonged to the anti-SHAYKH group in Jaffa during 1945-6. Their visit may have some connection with Ami's efforts to revive his group. Moreover, the fact that the delegation is being sent by the Jaffa Municipality (which is headed by Hisham) may mean an attempt to effect a rapprochement between 'ALANI's group and that of Ami."

Comments: The American Minister to the Lebanon expressed his view to the effect that Ami Day and his political adherents are being groomed to furnish opposition to the SHAYKH.

Info: Isthmian - (Independence)

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